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Illinois Rivers Appreciation Month



June 1984

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Calendar of Events

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NOTES ON EVENTS

Ice Breaker Cruise - Saint Charles Canoe Club (March 25)

Leave from Potawatomie Park, Kane County. Phone Mary Ellen at (312)741-2043 for details. Note! Participation in events of the Saint Charles Canoe Club requires membership in the organization.

Nippersink Creek Cruise, St. Charles Canoe Club (April 1, 1984)

Phone Vick Hopp at (815)385-8258 for details.

Mazon River Cruise, Saint Charles Canoe Club (April 15, 1984)

Phone Jim Panteleone at (815)634-8132 for details.

Upper DuPage River Cruise, Saint Charles Canoe Club (April 21, 1984)

Phone Aggie Dresch at (312)668-2344 for details.

Fox River Cruise, Saint Charles Canoe Club (April 28, 1984)

Meet in Village of Sheridan and canoe down to Wedron through the scenic dells section of the Fox River. Phone Clem Yuill at (312)879-5926.

11th Annual Current Buster Canoe and Kayak Race — Saint Charles Canoe Club (May 5-6, 1984)

This event will be held in Saint Charles Illinois on the Fox River. It will feature a 10 mile river marathon, olympic and cruising sprints, and fun races. Preregistration is \$5.00; \$6.00 on the day of the race. For more information contact Linda White, Register by phoning (312)255-1498.

12th Annual Keepataw Canoe and Kayak Race, Lemont Park District (May 13, 1984)

Activities are in Lemont with race on the Des Plaines River. This is a 10 mile marathon race. A fee is required for entry. For more information, phone Lemont Park District Office at (312)257-6787.

Little Vermillion River Cruise, Saint Charles Canoe Club (May 20, 1984)

Phone Clyde Means at (312)665-4574 for details.

27th Annual Des Plaines River Canoe Marathon-Des Plaines River Association (May 20, 1984)

This 19 mile marathon race begins at Libertyville in Lake County on the Des Plaines River. The entrance fee is \$6.00. Contact Ralph C. Frese at (312)777-1489 for further details.

14th Annual Sangamon River Festival/All Craft Race, Sangamon River All Craft Race, Inc. (May 26-27, 1984)

On Saturday May 26, 1984 there is a 29 mile race beginning at Riverside Park in Springfield, Illinois and ending below the Petersburg Dam at the city baseball diamond. In Petersburg there will be food and beverage booths, and free concerts. Sunday May 27 will feature an 8.5 mile raft race beginning at Wheeland Park in Riverton and finishing at Riverside Park in Springfield. Preregistration (10 days prior) is \$7.00 and registration the day of the event is

\$10.00. All light non- motored craft may enter the race. Flood dates are June 9-10, 1984. Contact Jeff Burgess of WDBR Radio, Inc. at (217)753-4505 for further details.

Lower DuPage River Cruise, Saint Charles Canoe Club
(June 2, 1984)

Contact Jeanne Cummings at (312)529-1284 for further details.

**15 th Annual Middle Fork Appreciation Day,
Committee on the Middle Fork of the Vermillion
River** (June 2, 1984)

The trip starts at northern edge of Middle Fork State Fish and Wildlife Area at the Higgensville Road Bridge Access Area and proceeds 12 miles downstream to Kickapoo State Recreation Area. Canoes and shuttle service available at Kickapoo State Recreation Area. All are welcome to participate. Contact Clark Bullard at (217)337-1097 for further details.

**21st Annual Mid American Canoe Race, - Fox Valley
Park District** (June 3, 1984)

Race begins at South Elgin on the Fox River in Kane County and terminates at Aurora. This is a 21 mile marathon. There is a 1000 canoe limit and only preregistrations of \$5.00 per person are accepted. For further information contact Chuck Hoescheit, the race secretary, at (312)897-0516.

Fox River Cruise - Saint Charles Canoe Club (June 10, 1984)

The club members will begin at Wedron in LaSalle County and canoe downstream to the mouth of the Fox River in Ottawa. Contact Frank Scribner at (312)879-0442 for further information.

**15th Annual Peoria Steamboat Days, Peoria Con
vention and Visitors Bureau** (June 15-16-17, 1984)

The location of this event is the Illinois River at Peoria. There will be continuous main stage entertainment for the three days, mud volley ball matches, speed boat races, a home made paddle boat race, the "Parade of Boats" featuring over 100 watercrafts, and food and carnival attractions. For further information contact Carl Bunker at (309)676-0303.

**15th Annual Vermillion River Canoe and
Kayak Race, Pontiac Paddlers** (June 16-17, 1984)

This race is held on the Vermillion River in Livingston County at Pontiac, Illinois. An entry fee is required for the race, which is a 12 mile marathon. There will also be sprints and fun races. Contact John Pfuff at (815)842-1604 for further information.

Kishwaukee River Cruise - Saint Charles Canoe Club
(June 20, 1984)

Phone Joe Compton at (312)888-4969 for details.

**Anything That Floats Rock River Raft Race, WROK-
WZOK Radio, Inc.** (July 4, 1984)

Event is held at Rockford on the Rock River. The race is from noon to five p.m. There is no limit to the number of entrants per raft, but the fee is \$5.00 per person. Competitors get tee shirts. Contact Jan Thorp at (815)399-2233 for further information.

Illinois River Raft Race - Calhoun Knights of Columbus and Hardin Lions Club (July 8, 1984)

This race occurs on the lower Illinois River near Hardin, Illinois. There is an entry fee. Contact John Hurley at (618)576-2225 for further information.

Rock River Cruise, Saint Charles Canoe Club (July 8, 1984)

Contact Joyce O'Brien at (815)436-2254 for details.

14th Annual Spoon River Canoe Race, London Mills Community Association (July 8, 1984)

The race is held on the Spoon River and is a 17 mile marathon. An entry fee is required. Contact Janet Malone at (309)486-3515 for further information.

Illinois Paddling Council Fox River Clean-up Cruise, Illinois Paddling Council (July 14-15, 1984)

Lower Fox River area in Kendall and LaSalle Counties is the location of this river clean up activity. Contact Lowell Stephens at (815)496-9285 for further information.

12th Annual Sauk Valley Canoe Race, Sauk Valley Canoe Club (July 22, 1984)

This 19 mile marathon is held annually on the Rock River near the Sterling-Rock Falls area. There is an entry fee. Contact Bob Walsh at (815)625-8467 for further information.

Decatur Jaycees Sangamon River Race, Decatur Jaycees (July 29, 1984)

A 13 mile marathon race is held annually on the Sangamon River near the City of Decatur. An entry fee is required. Contact Doug Wiegens at (217)423-5951 for further information.

Fox River Cruise, Saint Charles Canoe Club (July 29, 1984)

The club will begin this cruise at Silver Springs State Park near Yorkville in Kendall County and paddle downstream on the Fox River to the Village of Sheridan. Contact Frank Scribner for details at (312)879-0442.

Kankakee River Cruise, Saint Charles Canoe Club (August 4-5, 1984)

Contact Joe Compton at (312)888-4969 for details.

Regatta "84" - Junior League of the Quad Cities (August 11, 1984)

This event is held on the Mississippi River at Rock Island-Davenport. Festivities are on both sides of the river. Contact Bill Boom of the U.S. Coast Guard Auxillary at (319)326-5800 for details.

Sugar River Cruise, Saint Charles Canoe Club (August 18, 1984)

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Contact Jeanie Cummings at (312)529-1284 for details.

**11th Annual Tri County Riverfront Awareness Cruise,
Tri County Riverfront Action Forum, Inc. (August
19, 1984)**

The Forum annually in cooperation with the Rock Island District of the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers sponsors a by invitation only (250 persons) barge tour of the Illinois River's waterfront in the Peoria Area. The purpose of this tour is to heighten the awareness of Tri-County (Peoria, Tazewell and Woodford) civic leaders as to the plans and progress being made in urban waterfront renewal activities and recreational development along the river. River related problems, of crowding, and siltation, etc., are also discussed. For further information contact Don Meinen at (309)694-4391.

**Salt Creek Cruise, Saint Charles Canoe Club
(September 8, 1984)**

Contact Jim Doberstein at (312)627-1284 for details.

**9th Annual McHenry Canoe Race, Vic Hopp
(September 16, 1984)**

This 9 mile marathon is held annually on the Fox River at McHenry, Illinois. An entry fee is required. Contact Vic Hopp at (815)385-8258 for further information.

**Vermillion River Cruise, Saint Charles Canoe Club
(September 30, 1984)**

For details contact Clyde Means at (312)665-4574.

**Fox River Cruise, Saint Charles Canoe Club
(November 4,
1984)**

This fourth and final cruise of the Fox River will cover the portion from the Village of Montgomery downstream to Silver Springs State Park. Contact Joyce O'Brien at (815)436-2254 for details.

As you can see from this calendar Illinois' streams receive heavy use by a variety of recreators. It is the purpose of **Illinois River Appreciation Month** to increase the awareness of the importance of our rivers by both the general public and their elected officials at all levels of government. The protection of Illinois natural and cultural river and stream resources benefits everyone. If your group would like to initiate a river related event or clean-up on your favorite stream, contact:

**The Illinois Department of Conservation, Division of
Planning, Comprehensive Planning Section, Room 310
Lincoln Tower Plaza, 524 South Second Street,
Springfield, Illinois 62706 for technical assistance.
Phone (217)782-3715**

Calendar of Events in 1984

March 25

- Ice Breaker Cruise on Fox River - Saint Charles Canoe Club

April 1

- Nippersink Creek Cruise - Saint Charles Canoe Club

April 15

- Mazon River Cruise - Saint Charles Canoe Club

April 21

- Upper DuPage River Cruise - Saint Charles Canoe Club

April 28

- Fox River Cruise (Sheridan to Wedron) - Saint Charles Canoe Club

May 5

- 11th Annual Current Buster Canoe and Kayak Race - Saint Charles Canoe Club

May 13

- 12th Annual Keepataw Canoe and Kayak Race - Lemont Park District

May 20

- Little Vermillion River Cruise - Saint Charles Canoe Club
- 21st Annual Des Plaines River Canoe Marathon - Des Plaines River Association

May 26

- Sangamon River Festival/All Craft Race - Sangamon River All-Craft Race, Inc.

June 2

- Lower DuPage River Cruise - Saint Charles Canoe Club
- 15th Annual Middle Fork Appreciation Day -- Committee on the Middle Fork of the Vermillion River

June 3

- Mid-American Canoe Race - Fox Valley Park District

June 10

- 4th Annual Oswegoland Canoe and Kayak Race -- Oswego Jaycees
- Fox River Cruise (Wedron-Ottawa) - Saint Charles Canoe Club

June 15

- 15th Annual Peoria Steamboat Days - Peoria Convention and Visitors Bureau

June 16

- 15th Annual Vermillion River Canoe and Kayak Race - Pontiac Paddlers

June 30

- Kishwaukee River Cruise - Saint Charles Canoe Club

July 4

- Anything That Floats Rock River Raft Race -- WROK-WZOK Radio Inc.

July 8

- Illinois River Raft Race - Calhoun Knights of Columbus and Hardin Lions Club
- Rock River Cruise - Saint Charles Canoe Club
- 14th Annual Spoon River Canoe Race - London Mills Community Association

July 14

- Illinois Paddling Council Fox River Clean Up Cruise - Illinois Paddling Council

July 22

- 12th Annual Sauk Valley Canoe Race - Sauk Valley Canoe Club

July 29

- Decatur Jaycees Sangamon River Race - Decatur Jaycees
- Fox River Cruise (Silver Springs St. Park to Sheridan) - Saint Charles Canoe Club

August 4

- Kankakee River Cruise - Saint Charles Canoe Club

August 11

- Regatta "84" - Junior League of Quad Cities

August 18

- Sugar River Cruise - Saint Charles Canoe Club

August 29

- 11th Annual Riverfront Awareness Cruise - Tri County Riverfront Action Forum, Inc.

September 8

- Salt Creek Cruise - Saint Charles Canoe Club

September 16

- 9th Annual McHenry Canoe Race - Vic Hopp

September 30

- Vermillion River Cruise - Saint Charles Canoe Club

November 4

- Fox River Cruise (Montgomery to Silver Springs State Park) - Saint Charles Canoe Club

Illinois Rivers Appreciation Month

June, 1984 marks the third annual celebration of both **American Rivers Month** nationwide and **Illinois River Appreciation Month** in Illinois. Governor Thompson has again issued a proclamation stating the significant role of Illinois' rivers and streams in the state's development and continued well being. He has urged the state's citizens to become involved in events and efforts to clean our streams of refuse, practice conservation and protect scenic and recreational resources. While June 1984 has been chosen as the month to pause and reflect upon the importance of Illinois river and stream resources, beneficial efforts to create river awareness are carried out all year long. The Illinois Department of Conservation in conjunction with the Illinois Environmental Protection Agency, The Illinois Paddling Council and the Illinois Environmental Council encourages you to take time in 1984 to enjoy and appreciate some of our Illinois' rivers and streams. There are many local clubs and groups which annually sponsor river cruises, festivals and clean-up events. The following schedule while not exhaustive is representative of these activities in Illinois.

